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EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.
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TO KEEP A TRUE LENT.

Is this a fast, to keep
The larder leane,
And cleane
From fat of veales and sheep?
Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish?
Is it to fast an houre,
Or rag'd to go,
Or show
A downcast look or sowre?
No, 'tis a fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat,
And meat,
Unto thy hungry soule.
It is to fast from strife,
From old debate,
And hate;
To circumsise thy life.
To show a heart gref-rent,
To starve thy sin,
Not bin;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

HERRICK.

U. S. CONGRESS.—In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Solomon Foot was chosen President pro tem, the Vice President having given notice of his intention to be absent during the remainder of the session. The bill to regulate the appointment of midshipmen to the Naval Academy, was passed. The bill making appropriations for fortifications was also passed. The bill establishing the gauge of the Pacific Railroad at four feet eight and a half inches, was passed. The bill remodelling the courts of the District of Columbia, was discussed, but not finally acted on. The House of Representatives, yesterday, passed the bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Ohio river at Louisville. The Missouri emancipation bill, with the Senate amendments, was re committed to the Committee on Emancipation. The Senate bill indemnifying the President for certain arrests, and authorizing a suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, was then taken up, and Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, made a speech in opposition to it. At the evening session of the House, Mr. May, also, spoke warmly against the bill. He was replied to by Mr. Leary and Mr. Thomas, of Maryland.

Another hurricane of extreme violence was experienced at Marseilles on the 15th of January. All the ships in the roads were forced to seek shelter at the Frioul. The tempest extended along the coast of the Mediterranean, and occasioned serious losses. The French coasting vessels Vigne, Rosalie Baptistine, Marie Joseph, and the Italian brig San Antonio, were lost. The crew of the Vigne were saved—that of the Rosalie Baptistine perished. The Marie Joseph lost one of her crew, and the San Antonio three. A telegram from Martigues states that the French ship Jennie Armand, bound from Callao to Marseilles, and laden with minerals, was lost the same night; crew saved.

The Senate has confirmed Zenas C. Robbins as Register of Wills for the District of Columbia.

The New York Herald denounces Brooks, Prince and Marble, the editors of the Express, Journal of Commerce and World, who are at the bottom of the movement to raise \$10,000 to be used for the diffusion of political knowledge in New Hampshire, "and otherwise."

An unsuccessful attempt was made by the Confederate prisoners to escape from the penitentiary at Nashville, Tenn., on Monday night. One man was mortally wounded and another captured. The Cumberland river is clear of Confederates between Clarksville and Nashville. The river is much swollen and rising.—The cotton lands are overflowed.

The Legislature of Virginia has passed a law authorizing the common council of Richmond to suppress riots and unlawful assemblies in the said city; to suppress gaming and gambling houses, tippling houses, and to prevent or regulate the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors in the said city.

Senator Wilson has introduced a bill in the U. S. Senate to incorporate the "Institution for the Education of Colored Youth in the District of Columbia," naming Henry Addison, John C. Underwood, George C. Abbott, Wm. H. Channing, Nancy M. Johnson, and Myrtella Miner as incorporators.

Late Richmond papers have been received at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. The Dispatch says that the North is fighting for self-preservation. It also arraigns John Van Buren as guilty of a political somersault.

Gen. Rosecrans states in a letter to a relative that the Confederates are building strong fortifications at Tullahoma and at Dechard.—He thinks that they mean to make a desperate stand there, to protect Chattanooga.

Gen. Banks in New Orleans had issued an important order prohibiting foreclosures of mortgages and forced sales under certain circumstances. Gen. Banks has also issued an order to District Provost Marshals and Judges, requiring them to offer all fair and legal inducements to the negroes within each district, to return to their families and the plantations where they belong for one year, the alternative being liability to be arrested as vagrants.

The New Hampshire Union Convention was largely attended. Colonel Walter Harriman, of the Eleventh New Hampshire regiment, was unanimously nominated for Governor, and Col. John Coughlin, of the Tenth regiment, for Railroad Commissioner. A resolution was adopted that there can be no neutrals in the present struggle, and in favor of the continued prosecution of the war.

A party of guerrillas fired into the ram Dick Fulton, at Cypress Bend, on the Mississippi, and killed several of her crew. She was towing coal to the fleet, and would have been captured, but was saved by the gunboat Rattler.

The controversy with regard to the Great Falls of the Potomac water right, will soon be adjusted, it is thought.

Several regiments of Ohio and Indiana soldiers in the army of the Cumberland have passed resolutions and issued an address in favor of continuing the war.

The N. Y. Express urges the use of the names, Copper Heads and Wooly Heads, as the distinguishing names for the two parties at the North. It calls itself "Copper-Head."

The Finance Committee's amendment to the Naval Appropriation bill in the Senate provides that no contract shall be entered into for building the iron sea steamers for which \$12,000,000 are appropriated, until the plans and specifications have been approved by a board of three skilful Naval Engineers, and advertisements published according to law for proposals for building them.

On Monday night last a schooner, belonging to Mr. S. M. Smith, an oyster packer, was captured near Swan Point, containing a large quantity of goods, valued at from \$4,000 to \$5,000, and also about \$12,000 in Treasury notes, which were intended for the South.

Col. Windham, commanding cavalry brigade at Fairfax Court-House, in his recent reconnaissance to the Rappahannock, accomplished one of the most rapid marches made since the present war began. The reconnoitering force, consisting of about four hundred men, in three days marched from Fairfax to Rappahannock Station, down the Rappahannock to Falmouth, and from Falmouth, through Stafford Court-House and Dumfries, back to Fairfax Court-House—a distance of about two hundred miles, or over sixty-six miles a day.—Col. Windham in his march had no less than four skirmishes.

Adams' Express Company's safe, containing \$5,000 in specie, has been recovered from the wreck of the steamer Ella Warley.

The Baltimore American thinks that the U. S. Government have "too long tolerated the career of Mr. Vallandigham."

The Marlboro' Gazette says:—"A subscriber who is considerably in arrears, replies to our dun, that he has "become a convert to Mr. Lincoln's theory—that it is easier to pay a smaller sum when you have it, than a larger one when you don't have it;" and as he has "no prospect of ever seeing the smaller sum, he declines any further conversation about the larger." We send him a receipt in full by the next mail."

A fire broke out in St Lawrence Hall, one of the hotels of Montreal, on Saturday morning about two o'clock, and the building was partially destroyed. Several of the inmates were nearly suffocated by the smoke before they could be rescued, and one of them, a servant, has since died from its effects. Joshua R. Giddings, the American Consul General, who resides at the hotel, was awakened as quickly as possible, but before he could escape, became insensible from the effects of the vapor and smoke, and was carried for safety to another part of the hotel. He afterward revived.